

## **Kroger Diabetes and Hypertension Coaching Program For Medicare Eligible Participants (Effective January 1, 2016)**

The Kroger Diabetes and Hypertension Coaching Program is offered to all CRS retirees who participate in CRS health care coverage. The benefits of participating in the program include consultations with a Kroger pharmacist and the waiver of co-pays for certain medications and supplies for diabetes, hypertension and high cholesterol.

**January 1, 2016 marked the implementation of the United Healthcare Medicare Part D prescription drug program (sponsored by CRS) as required by the Collaborative Settlement Agreement.** Medicare Part D programs are subject to many Medicare rules and regulations. Certain Medicare rules do not allow Medicare Part D plans to waive participant co-pays under certain circumstances. The Kroger program is affected by these rules. As of January 1, 2016, members who participate in the CRS sponsored UHC Medicare Part D prescription plan have not been able to have their co-pays waived at the time of purchasing the covered prescriptions.

However, CRS has developed a solution that will allow Medicare eligible Kroger Program participants to be reimbursed for the eligible co-pays. CRS and Custom Design Benefits (CDB) have created a reimbursement program that allows participants to send eligible receipts or pharmacy printouts to CDB for reimbursement by check or direct deposit.

Program highlights,

- Participants will continue to pay the co-pays to the pharmacy when purchasing prescriptions.
- Participants complete the reimbursement form and attach “bag tags” or pharmacy printouts for the eligible prescriptions.
- Separate reimbursement forms must be used for each participant. A pensioner and spouse cannot include their reimbursement requests on the same form.
- Participant Mails or Faxes the form to Custom Design Benefits.
- Reimbursements are provided by check or direct deposit from Custom Design Benefits.
- Reimbursements are processed twice a month and are not subject to taxes.

Enclosed is more information about the program, as well as reimbursement forms, a direct deposit form and a summary list of eligible drugs. These forms are also available on the CRS website.

We are pleased to be able to continue the Kroger Program for our Medicare eligible members.

Sincerely,

**The Cincinnati Retirement System**